



PATENT 2673

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

# 4  
S.I.  
12-18-03

Applicant: Tachikawa et al.

Conf. No. 4817

Serial No. 10/078,900

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

Filed: February 19, 2002

For: DATA PROCESSING  
APPARATUS12/5/2003 Jan K. Folker  
Date Registration No. 37, 538

F-CLASS.WCM

Art Unit: 2673

Appr. February 20, 1998

Attorney for Applicant

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

DEC 10 2003

DEC 11 2003

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

TC 2600

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS &amp; CRAIN, LTD.

300 South Wacker Drive – Suite 2500  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Telephone: (312) 360-0080  
Facsimile: (312) 360-9315  
Customer Number 24978

By:

James K. Folker  
Registration No. 37,538